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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Katou et al.

Serial No.: 10/702,038 **Group Art Unit:** 3676

Filed: November 6, 2003 **Examiner:** Christopher J. Boswell

For: LOCK APPARATUS

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313 - 1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 19, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 1-20 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-4 6, and 8-9 are amended to more clearly define the invention and claims 10-20 are added. Claims 1 and 10 are independent.